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PRESS RELEASE

STUDY LINKS INTERPOL CHIEF TO CORSICAN DRUG TRAFFICKERS

A STUDY OF THE ROLE FRENCH INTELLIGENCE AGENCIES HAVE PLAYED IN NARCOTICS SMUGGLING HAS LINKED THE CURRENT SECRETARY GENERAL OF INTERPOL, THE CONTROVERSIAL POLICE ASSOCIATION, TO CORSICAN DRUG SYNDICATES.

THE STUDY WAS RELEASED IN A REPORT PUBLISHED BY THE CHURCH OF SCIENTOLOGY'S NATIONAL COMMISSION ON LAW ENFORCEMENT AND SOCIAL JUSTICE (NCLE) AS PART OF ITS PROBE OF INTERPOL'S FAILURE TO EFFECTIVELY COMBAT DRUG TRAFFICKING.

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"INTERPOL SECRETARY GENERAL JEAN NEPOTE ATTAINED HIS POSITION WITH THE INFLUENCE OF FRENCH--CORSICAN SYNDICATES WITH WHOM HE HAS REMAINED CLOSE DURING HIS 30 YEARS WITH THE POLICE GROUP," NCLE OFFICIALS STATED, "EVEN TURNING HIS BACK ON AN AMERICAN STUDY THAT FOUND INTERPOL OFFICIALS HAD BEEN TRAFFICKING IN COCAINE."

WHILE THE COOPERATION OF FRENCH INTELLIGENCE AGENCIES WITH CORSICAN SYNDICATES IN THE TRAFFICKING OF NARCOTICS BETWEEN VIETNAM AND MARSEILLES HAS BEEN WELL ESTABLISHED, THE ESTABLISHMENT OF INTERPOL AS THE PRIMARY CONDUIT OF DRUG INTELLIGENCE INFORMATION IS AN AREA THAT HAS NEVER BEEN INVESTIGATED BEFORE.

"NEPOTE WAS INTRODUCED TO ELEMENTS OF THE CORSICAN SYNDICATES AT THE END OF WORLD WAR II," THE REPORT STATES, "WHEN HIS NAME WAS ADDED TO THE ROSTER OF A NEWLY--FORMED RESISTANCE GROUP TO AVOID CHARGES OF NAZI COLLABORATION." THE GROUP, AJAX, WAS USED AS A "DIPLOMA MILL" FOR SUCH PURPOSES, ACCORDING TO WITNESSES INTERVIEWED IN FRANCE, WITH LATECOMERS OFTEN BLACKMAILED UNDER THREAT THAT THEIR ACTUAL WARTIME ACTIVITY WOULD BE REVEALED.

WHEN FRANCE TOOK CONTROL OF INTERPOL IN 1946, NEPOTE WAS RECOMMENDED IN BY THE THEN CURRENT MAYOR OF A RICH PARISIAN SUBURB WHO HAS BEEN LINKED TO THE TOP CORSICAN SYNDICATE IN THE PULITZER PRIZE BOOK HEROIN TRAIL. HOWEVER, NEPOTE'S RELATION TO THE GROUP WAS NOT UNCOVERED UNTIL NCLE RESEARCHERS PURSUED THE INVESTIGATION IN FRANCE EARLIER THIS YEAR.

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THE REPORT TITLED "THE AJAX FILE: AN ANALYSIS OF INTERPOL'S FAILURE TO COMBAT INTERNATIONAL DRUG TRAFFICKING," STATES THAT THE POLICE GROUP "IS BUT ONE COG IN THE MASSIVE INTERNATIONAL MACHINERY THAT IS PROFITING FROM THE TRANSPORT OF NARCOTICS."

THE STUDY WAS PROMPTED BY A REPORT FROM THE GENERAL ACCOUNTING OFFICE, THE INVESTIGATIVE ARM OF THE CONGRESS, WHICH REPORTED IN DECEMBER LAST YEAR, THAT INTERPOL'S DRUG ENFORCEMENT EFFORTS CONCENTRATED ON "YOUNG AMERICANS OR U.S. SERVICEMEN ARRESTED OVERSEAS WITH SMALL QUANTITIES OF DRUGS, SUCH AS MARIJUANA," AND DID NOT INVOLVE "ESTABLISHED INTERNATIONAL CRIMINALS OR LARGE CRIME SYNDICATES."

"THIS ODDITY IS FULLY UNDERSTOOD WHEN IT IS REALIZED THAT INTERPOL IS WORKING FOR MAJOR FRENCH SYNDICATES AND NOT AGAINST THEM," STATED NCLE RESEARCH DIRECTOR VAUGHN YOUNG. "THE COCAINE CONNECTION ALREADY FOUND IS BUT ONE PART OF A MASSIVE DRUG OPERATION BEING PROTECTED BY INTERPOL AND FRENCH INTELLIGENCE OFFICIALS."

THE NCLE RELEASED EARLIER THIS YEAR INFORMATION ON THE ROLE OF INTERPOL OFFICIALS TRAFFICKING IN COCAINE AFTER A STATE DEPARTMENT REPORT CITING SUCH SMUGGLING FROM SOUTH AMERICA HAD BEEN FOUND IN

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A STATE DEPARTMENT LIBRARY.

> THE AJAX REPORT INTEGRATES INFORMATION ALREADY AVAILABLE THROUGH OTHER STUDIES AND COURT RECORDS WITH NUMEROUS INTERVIEWS CONDUCTED IN FRANCE EARLIER THIS YEAR BY NCLE OFFICIALS.

INTERPOL IS CURRENTLY HOUSED IN THE JUSTICE DEPARTMENT BUT HAS BEEN UNDER INVESTIGATION FROM NUMEROUS CIRCLES.

THE NCLE HAS BEEN PROBING INTERPOL'S ACTIVITIES FOR THE LAST THREE YEARS AND LAST MONTH RELEASED DOCUMENTATION OBTAINED UNDER THE FREEDOM OF INFORMATION ACT DETAILING COOPERATION BETWEEN THE FBI AND NAZI INTERPOL OFFICIALS IN BERLIN UNTIL ONLY DAYS BEFORE THE ATTACK ON PEARL HARBOR.